

ANNUAL ASSEMBLY IN OTOLARYNGOLOGY, University of Illinois College of Medicine, 1853 West Polk Street, Chicago 12, Illinois. (Dr. F. L. Lederer, Professor and Head of the Department.) September 19-October 1, 1955.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE AMERICAN ACADEMY FOR CEREBRAL PALSY, Memphis, Tennessee. (Dr. R. A. Knight, Secretary-Treasurer, 869 Madison Avenue, Memphis 3, Tenn.) October 10-12, 1955.

OTHER COUNTRIES

TENTH CONGRESS OF THE INTERNATIONAL UROLOGICAL SOCIETY, Athens. (Prof. Z. Kairis, rue Voukourestiou 25, Athens.) April 10-18, 1955.

MIDDLE EAST MEDICAL ASSEMBLY OF THE AMERICAN UNIVERSITY OF BEIRUT, American University campus, Beirut, Lebanon. (Dr. John L. Wilson, Professor of Surgery, Chairman, Committee for the Fifth Middle East Medical Assembly.) April 22-24, 1955.

WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION—8th General Assembly, Mexico City. (World Health Organization, Palais des Nations, Geneva, Switzerland.) May 10, 1955.

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS OF FRENCH-SPEAKING PÆDIATRICIANS, Marseilles, France. (Dr. René Bernard, Clinique Médicale Infantile, Hôpital de la Conception, Marseilles.) May 23-25, 1955.

INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS—20th Anniversary Meeting, Geneva, Switzerland. (Dr. Max Thorek, 850 West Irving Park Road, Chicago 13, Ill.) May 23-26, 1955.

SEVENTH INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF COMPARATIVE PATHOLOGY, Lausanne, Switzerland. (Prof. Hauduroy, 19 avenue César-Roux, Lausanne.) May 26-31, 1955.

INTERNATIONAL HOSPITAL CONGRESS, Lucerne, Switzerland. (Capt. J. E. Stone, Hon. Secretary, International Hospital Federation, 10 Old Jewry, London, E.C.2, England.) May 29-June 3, 1955.

EUROPEAN CONGRESS ON RHEUMATISM, Scheveningen, The Hague, Netherlands. (Dr. H. van Swaay, Secretary, Pieter Bothstraat 12, The Hague, Netherlands.) June 13-17, 1955.

FIFTH CONGRESS OF THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE STUDY OF THE BRONCHI, Stockholm, Sweden. (Dr. J. M. Lemoine, 187 boulevard Saint-Germain, Paris 7e.) June 18-19, 1955.

FOURTH COMMONWEALTH HEALTH AND TUBERCULOSIS CONFERENCE, Royal Festival Hall, London, England. (Secretary-General, National Association for the Prevention of Tuberculosis, Tavistock House North, Tavistock Square, London, W.C.1, England.) June 21-25, 1955.

SECOND CONGRESS OF THE INTERNATIONAL DIABETES FEDERATION, Cambridge, England. (Organizing Secretary, Mr. J. G. L. Jackson, Congress Office, 152 Harley Street, London, W. 1, England.) July 4-8, 1955.

CONGRESS OF INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF APPLIED PSYCHOLOGY, London, England. (Dr. C. B. Frisby, President, National Institute of Industrial Psychology, 14 Welbeck Street, London, England.) July 18-23, 1955.

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF SURGERY, Copenhagen, Denmark. (Dr. Hasner, 7 Blegdamsvej, Copenhagen.) July 24-31, 1955.

SIXTH INTERNATIONAL ANATOMICAL CONGRESS, Paris, France. (Prof. Gaston Cordier, Secretary-General, 45 rue des Saints-Pères, Paris 6e, France.) July 25-30, 1955.

THIRD INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF BIOCHEMISTRY, Brussels, Belgium. (Prof. C. Liébecq, Secretary-General, 17 Place Delcour, Liège, Belgium.) August 1-6, 1955.

NEWS ITEMS

BRITISH COLUMBIA

The Vancouver Medical Association held its 33rd Osler Lecture session on March 1 at the Hotel Vancouver. This is perhaps the most important meeting of the year, and is marked by two events yearly.

The first of these is the Osler Lecture by a speaker chosen by the Executive. This year's choice was Dr. Donald H. Williams, the well-known Vancouver dermatologist. Dr. Williams's subject was "The Maimonidean Code" and in a brilliant address he dealt with the problems facing medicine since the birth of Osler in 1849, and the ways in which these have been solved. He pointed to the terrific challenge of world trends to the profession of medicine, and our responsibility in these world affairs; the admittedly perilous state of things can only be faced on moral and ethical grounds, and with the weapons of high moral and ethical standards, individually and collectively. These standards were laid down for us eight hundred years ago by Maimonides, the great Hebrew physician, sage and poet of the twelfth century.

The other event was the granting of the P.G.F. degree (Prince of Good Fellows)—the highest honour that this Association has to bestow. Its recipient must, in the Latin words of the Testamur, have proved himself a man of the highest integrity, devotion to his profession, and service to the Association as well as to his city and country.

Those honoured this year were Dr. Wallace J. Dorance and Dr. R. P. Kinsman, both graduates of McGill (1921), one a surgeon and the other a paediatrician. The acclaim of the audience showed its appreciation of the choice made.

The Pearson Hospital of the Tuberculosis Division of the Public Health Department of the Province of B.C. is to be enlarged by a 209-bed addition to its buildings at West 57th Avenue, Vancouver. This will be a five-storey building.

Five Vancouver medical men attended the meetings of the Canadian Arthritis and Rheumatism Society last month in Toronto: Dr. R. W. Lamont-Havers, medical director of the B.C. Division of the Society; Dr. Harold Robinson, research director; Dr. J. A. Traynor, chairman of the medical advisory committee; Dr. Marvin Darrache, C.A.R.S. research worker at University of British Columbia; and Dr. A. W. Bagnall, a member of the C.A.R.S. national committee on programme and standards.

Dr. Cameron S. Allen, Vancouver orthopaedist, has been awarded an exchange fellowship by the British, American and Canadian Orthopaedic Associations, and will travel to England shortly. He will be the only Canadian, with four American orthopaedists also travelling as fellows. This team will visit England and Paris to confer with leading orthopaedists in these centres, see the latest methods and explore results.

The question of hospital bed shortage is again very much to the fore. The question came up at the meeting of the Legislature in Victoria, and the Hon. Eric Martin, Minister of Health, dealt extensively with the subject. It was pointed out that in spite of the increase in sales tax from 3 to 5%, which was designed to take care of hospital costs, there is still a deficit. It is believed that there will be an earnest attempt made by the government, assisted by representatives of the medical profession and the hospitals, to solve this very pressing problem.

For the Scientific Session of the General Practitioners' Section of the Canadian Medical Association, B.C. Division, meeting at Harrison Hot Springs Hotel, an excellent programme of addresses and papers has been prepared. Taking part will be Dr. Lennox Bell, Dean of Medicine and Professor of Medicine, University of Manitoba; Dr. A. Nash, obstetrical and gynaecological specialist of Victoria, B.C.; Dr. H. Roche Robertson, Professor of Surgery, University of British Columbia; and Dr. Maurice D. Young, Assistant Professor of Paediatrics, University of British Columbia.

J. H. MACDERMOT

SASKATCHEWAN

After attendance at a course prescribed by the Saskatchewan Department of Public Health, baby sitters at Wynyard have organized a league, elected officers and adopted a code of ethics in terms under which they will serve.

With a physician and a nurse assisting and a third qualified person discussing psychology in relation to child care, the girls were given instruction in the supervision of children and also in elementary child care.

A very successful course in postgraduate obstetrics with 110 physicians and 58 nurses in attendance was held in Saskatoon in January under the sponsorship of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Saskatchewan, the College of Medicine of the University of Saskatchewan and the Department of Public Health of Saskatchewan.

Special guest speakers were Dr. H. B. Atlee, Professor of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Dalhousie University; and Miss Minnie Boon Ford, Assistant Professor of Nursing, University of Wyoming. The other participants in the programme were: Doctors A. B. Brown, Joseph A. Brown, F. E. Buchwald, K. M. Crocker, N. Goluboff, W. S. Holmes, W. S. Kinnear, J. E. Newall, R. H. McPherson, E. H. McFadyen, J. G. McCarroll, J. M. Wyant, A. C. Wensley and K. A. Yonge.

Combined sessions of physicians and nurses were held on January 20 and January 21, with separate sessions for the physicians and nurses on the morning of January 22.

A regional meeting of the members of the American College of Physicians and Surgeons of Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta was held in Regina on Friday and Saturday, February 4 and 5. A cordial invitation to attend was extended to all Fellows and Associates of the College. All other members of the medical profession interested in the programme were also invited.

The scientific programme was prepared under the chairmanship of Dr. D. E. Rodger, Regina, and was both interesting and stimulating. This was the first joint meeting of the three prairie provinces. Dr. George F. Strong, Vancouver, President-elect of the American College of Physicians and President of the Canadian Medical Association, was the guest speaker at the reception and dinner. Dr. Strong contributed to the scientific sessions at which the following speakers were also heard: Dr. D. R. Wilson, Edmonton; Dr. A. A. Bailey, Saskatoon; Dr. F. A. L. Matheson, Winnipeg; Dr. J. Grant McFetridge, Regina; Dr. M. J. Tuttle, Calgary; Dr. I. M. Hilliard, Saskatoon; Dr. Earl P. Scarlett, Calgary; Dr. Louis Cherniac, Winnipeg; Dr. Stanley Green Hill, Edmonton; Dr. A. B. Houston, Winnipeg; Dr. F. C. Heal, Moose Jaw; Dr. M. G. Israels, Regina, and Dr. J. D. Stephen, Regina.

At the clinical sessions Dr. C. H. A. Walton, Winnipeg, Dean J. W. Macleod, Saskatoon, and Dr. P. H. Braggot, Edmonton, acted as chairmen of the scientific sessions. Dr. D. E. Rodger of Regina acted as chairman of the reception and dinner held at the Hotel Saskatchewan on Friday evening.

Dr. J. Orr, General Superintendent of the Saskatchewan Anti-Tuberculosis League, in his 1954 report to the League's Board of Governors said that deaths caused by the disease in Saskatchewan are now generally confined to the older age groups. There were 50 deaths due to tuberculosis last year—a death rate of 5.7 for each 100,000 of the population. In 1953, 87 persons died of tuberculosis.

Dr. Orr further announced that there can be no thought of curtailing the preventive programme as long as large numbers of cases continue to be found. During the last year nearly 194,000 persons were x-rayed, about 45,000 tuberculin tests were given and 5,215 people were vaccinated.

Medical men who are especially interested in fishing will be pleased to learn that over 15 million fry, fingerling and adult fish were placed in Saskatchewan fish-bearing waters last year by the Provincial Fisheries Branch. The largest single project was the planting of 14,700,000 pickerel fry in water scattered throughout Saskatchewan and in the Prince Albert and Meadow Lake districts.

G. W. PEACOCK

MANITOBA

Dr. Murray L. Barr, Professor of Microscopic Anatomy, University of Western Ontario, London, was the Merck Lecturer at Manitoba College on February 15. His subject, clinical applications of skin biopsy test of sex, was one on which he is recognized universally as an authority, and was presented in clear and convincing form. At the close there was an animated discussion which testified to the interest aroused by the lecture.

The following have been reappointed members of the Board of Health under the Public Health Act for a term of three years: Dr. F. T. Cadham, Dr. M. S. Loughheed, Dr. J. D. Adamson, Dr. Eyjolfur Johnson, Mr. James A. Cuddy, and Mr. Arthur William Vincent.

On February 19 the Hunter Memorial Hospital at Teulon was opened by Mrs. Hunter, widow of Dr. A. J. Hunter who built the first hospital in the little town in 1904. Dr. Hunter held degrees in medicine and theology and ministered to the newly arrived Ukrainian settlers. The first hospital was maintained by the Women's Missionary Society of the United Church. Dr. Hunter hoped that it would be replaced some day by a fully modern structure. The new concrete-block building, housing 20 beds, is the only hospital in Manitoba built on a one-level plan. The Hon. R. W. Bend, Minister of Health, and Mayor Roy Ellison spoke after the ribbon had been cut by Mrs. Hunter. The cost of the new hospital is \$156,000, paid for by government grants, taxes and donations.

Professor D. McDougall, Dean of Pharmacy of the University of Manitoba, addressed the Manitoba Historical Society on February 22 on the history of pharmacy in Manitoba. He spoke of drugs used by the Indians in Manitoba, the drugs in use by early Red River settlers, and those now stocked in the far-flung Hudson's Bay trading posts. Among the early doctors he mentioned C. J. Bird, whose Apothecaries Hall on Main Street, Winnipeg, boasted the first soda-water fountain in the Canadian West, and J. C. Schultz, who sold his stock of drugs to J. W. Stewart, the first registrar of the incorporated Manitoba Association of Pharmacists.

WINNIPEG MEDICAL SOCIETY

Professor Oswald Hall, Ph.D., Director, Department of Sociology, McGill University, addressed the Winnipeg Medical Society on February 18 on "What the Patient Expects from the Doctor". Based on interviews with

patients representative of four economic and social levels, he showed his audience, which included the Minister and Deputy Minister of Health and Public Welfare, how these four persons selected their doctors, how they regarded them, and what they expected of them. The interviews were models of reporting, and the address was enlivened with humour. The speaker was introduced by Professor I. M. Thomson, and a vote of thanks was moved by Dr. A. A. Klass.

A meeting of the Medical History Section of the Winnipeg Medical Society was held on March 3 in the Medical Arts Club. Dr. Athol Gordon spoke on historic coroners' inquests.

ROSS MITCHELL

ONTARIO

The tuberculosis death rate in Ontario fell from 28.1 per 100,000 in 1943 to 6.4 per 100,000 in 1953, a decline of 70% in the last decade.

During the first six months of 1954 the Ontario Department of Health's mass surveys yielded only one active case for every 2,700 people screened; the Gage Institute, Toronto, reported only one active case in every 3,200 people screened. These figures represent a substantial decline from the 1953 reports of one in every 1,222 from the Department surveys and one in every 1,674 from the Gage Institute. The total decrease in active cases for the province as a whole is probably 355.

The changing picture is reflected in the number of new admissions to sanatoria. At the end of January 1953, Ontario had a waiting list of 171, but by the end of September 1954 there were 324 vacant beds.

The Faculty of Medicine, University of Toronto, has received nearly \$125,000 in gifts. These include: \$100,000 under the will of Dr. H. A. Beatty for scholarships or fellowships to graduates who have served as residents at the Toronto Western Hospital; \$10,025 from the J. P. Bickell Foundation to provide a Beckman recording spectrophotometer in the Department of Pharmacology; \$12,500 from Trinidad Leaseholders (Canada) for cardiovascular research; \$1,200 anonymously for the Department of Medicine Special Fund, 1954; \$1,000 from friends of the late Dr. Appleton to establish the Dr. Benjamin W. Appleton prize in psychiatry.

The Physiological Society of the University of Toronto heard these papers in February: The Use of Hypothermia in Neurosurgery, presented by Dr. W. M. Loughheed, Department of Surgery, and Dr. J. W. Scott, Department of Physiology; Some Aspects of the Role of Potassium Ion in the Carbohydrate Metabolism of the Isolated Rat Diaphragm, by Dr. D. W. Clarke, Department of Physiology; Studies on the Metabolism of Radioactive Thyroid Hormone During Short Exposure to Cold, by Dr. Ingeborg Radde, Department of Physiology; Histamine Metabolism, by Dr. W. G. B. Casselman, Banting and Best Department of Medical Research.

Dr. Robert M. Janes has been made an Honorary Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons of England.

Dr. C. H. Best has been chosen Croonian lecturer for 1955 by the Council of the Royal Society. The first Canadian to be so honoured, Dr. Best will deliver the lecture in London in June.

In 1954, 5,618 anaesthetics were given at the Women's College Hospital, Toronto. No deaths occurred on the table. One woman, aged 88, died of pulmonary oedema three hours after operation. In the same year, 2,909 babies were delivered at the hospital. Ninety-six of the

births required Caesarean section. There were 30 stillbirths and no maternal deaths.

Sir Harold Himsworth, secretary of the Medical Research Council of Great Britain, visited the Faculty of Medicine, University of Toronto, recently.

Dr. Robert Janes and Dr. Charles Robson have been awarded plaques by the American College of Surgeons for their contribution to the teaching of surgery as demonstrated by them in a motion picture. These surgeons collaborated in presenting a demonstration of investigation and diagnosis of hypernephroma with nephrectomy by the thoraco-abdominal approach. This motion picture was added to the film library of the American College of Surgeons.

Dr. Leland S. McKittrick, clinical professor of surgery, Harvard Medical School, delivered a fluent address on "The Science and Art of Cancer Surgery" at the Toronto Academy of Medicine. He felt that, if possible, we should always have one more trick up our sleeve in the treatment of the patient, and never let him feel that we have reached the end of our therapeutic armamentarium. He stressed the need of human understanding in our relationships with the cancer patient, although at times this may be extremely trying.

He also feels very definitely that the radical, major surgical attacks on cancer have their place but should be done in large centres, where facilities are available for adequate follow-up and assessment of the value of this type of surgery.

Dr. J. A. MacFarlane, Dean of the Faculty of Medicine, University of Toronto, addressing the Empire Club of Toronto on "The Modern Medical School; Its Associations and Obligations," stated that all twelve medical schools in Canada face the same problems of rising costs and of revenues that steadily meet less of these costs. Yet the teaching of the schools and the graduates they produce affect every person in the nation.

Today the medical school not only produces the family doctor, but also operates in a broad field which links hospitals as teaching institutions, laboratories as both clinical and research centres, and the profession into a vast group devoted to health. It provides postgraduate studies which lead to specialization. It centres and fosters research. It provides continuing education for practising physicians.

He said that Canadian schools do not fear a malignant influence from money which comes from provincial or federal governments; they are not embarrassed by such support, and, although they welcome private endowments and private support for special projects, the ever-widening gap between income and expenditures can only be closed by solid and continuing government funds if the schools are to carry out the functions which the public expects and their tradition demands.

Dr. Angus D. McLachlin, Professor of Surgery, University of Western Ontario, spoke on conservative management of the diabetic foot at the three-day annual clinical conference of the Chicago Medical Society.

A federal grant of \$477,000 to the Ontario Cancer Treatment and Research Foundation has been approved. As this is matched by a dollar-for-dollar grant from the province, the foundation will have a budget of almost a million dollars during 1955. An important part of next year's work will be the operation of new cobalt therapy centres at Windsor, Hamilton and Kingston.

About \$100,000 will be devoted to clinical research at hospitals and universities in Ontario where research is carried out in close alliance with the treatment methods of those hospitals. A further \$20,000 provides for the support of four full-time fellowships. LILLIAN A. CHASE